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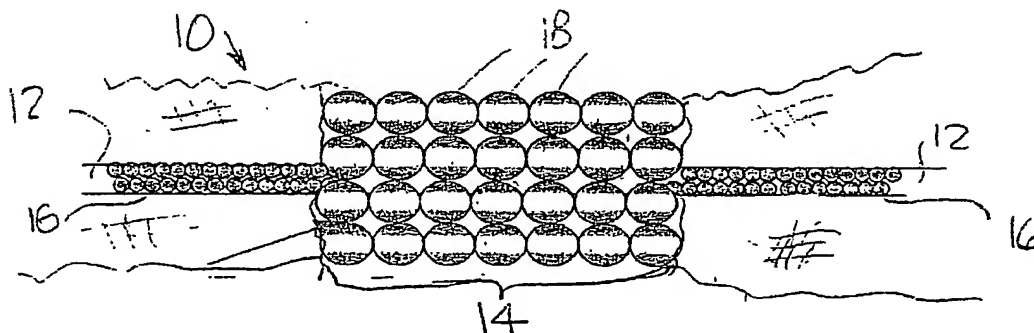
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- (71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): **SAUDI ARABIAN OIL COMPANY [SA/SA];** R-3296, Administration Building, Dhahran 31311 (SA).
- (72) Inventors; and
- (75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): **ORTIZ, Isaias** [US/SA]; 101 Banyan Court, Dhahran 31311 (SA). **THOMAS, Ronnie, L.** [US/SA]; 100 Cactus CT, Dhahran 31311 (SA).
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(54) Title: **METHOD OF TREATING SUBTERRANEAN FORMATIONS TO ENHANCE HYDROCARBON PRODUCTION USING PROPPANTS**



(57) Abstract: A method of enhancing the flow of hydrocarbon fluids from small flow conduits (12) in a subterranean reservoir rock formation (10) that have traditionally not been propped in association with a fracturing treatment of the formation (10), the method including the steps of introducing a first pressurized fluid into the formation at a pressure that is sufficient to expand the pre-existing small flow conduits (12) and introducing into the pressure-expanded small flow conduits (12) a first portion of a relatively small particulate propping agent (16); simultaneously with the fracturing of the formation, or immediately thereafter, introducing a second portion of a relatively small particulate propping agent (16) into expanded pre-existing small flow conduits and into any new small flow conduits that are formed by the fracturing of the formation; and reducing the hydraulic pressure on the formation, whereby the small flow conduits are held open by propping agent particles.

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